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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: John R. Liddicoat et al.
Serial No.: 10/724,854
Filing Date: 12/01/2003
For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MANIPULATING
TISSUE
Group Art Unit No.: 3732
Examiner: unknown
Attorney's Docket No.: LIDDICOHN-123

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby submit documents and information which may be considered material to the examination of this application. These documents and information are listed on the accompanying forms.

Copies of documents 1-20, which are listed on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08A (substitute for Form PTO-1449), are enclosed herewith.

Applicants respectfully request that these documents be fully considered by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application and printed on any patent which may issue on this application. Applicants also respectfully request that a copy of the Form PTO/SB/08A (substitute for Form PTO-1449) (two pages), submitted herewith, as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned to the undersigned with the next communication.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is believed to be required.

It is believed that this disclosure complies with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. If for any reason the Examiner considers otherwise, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be contacted by the Examiner by telephone in order that any deficiencies may be expeditiously remedied.

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The enclosed documents may have markings thereon. Applicants are not presently aware of the source of those markings, and no significance is meant to be attached thereto.

Please charge any additional fees due in connection with this submission, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0221. A duplicate copy of this submission is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

Thank you.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON:

November 4, 2004

(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

Mark J. Pandiscio

(NAME OF ATTORNEY)

Mark J. Pandiscio 11/4/04

(SIGNATURE)

November 4, 2004

(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

Respectfully submitted,

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Complete if Known

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	2
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Application Number	10/724,854
Filing Date	12/01/2003
First Named Inventor	John R. Liddicoat et
Art Unit	3732
Examiner Name	unknown
Attorney Docket Number	LIDDICOHN-123

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS			
		Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ¹ (if any)			
N.B./	1	US- 2002/0082621	06-27-2002	Schurr et al.	
↓	2	US- 2002/0156470	10-24-2002	Shaddock	
	3	US- 2003/0176883	09-18-2003	Sauer et al.	
	4	US- 2003/0171760	09-11-2003	Gambale	
	5	US- 2003/0171664	09-11-2003	Wendlandt	
	6	US- 2003/0120289	06-26-2003	McGuckin, Jr. et al.	
	7	US- 2003/0065359	04-03-2003	Weller et al.	
	8	US- 2002/0193851	12-19-2002	Silverman et al.	
	9	US- 2001/0056282	12-27-2001	Sonnenschein et al.	
	10	US- 6,592,596	07-15-2003	Geitz	
	11	US- 6,514,250	02-04-2003	Jahns et al.	
	12	US- 6,478,791	11-12-2002	Carter et al.	
	13	US- 6,254,642	07-03-2001	Taylor	
	14	US- 6,231,585	05-15-2001	Takahashi et al.	
	15	US- 6,197,022	03-06-2001	Baker	
	16	US- 5,865,827	02-02-1999	Bullister	
	17	US- 5,345,949	09-13-1994	Shlain	
	18	US- 6,558,400	05-06-2003	Deem et al.	
	N.B./	19	US- 6,663,639	12-16-2003	Laufer et al.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner Signature	/s/ Bul/ (01/19/2010)	Date Considered
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EXAMINER: Include copy if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 809. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Initial copy of this form with need not communication to applicant. *Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ¹ See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 001.04. ² Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ³ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁴ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁵ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

Transition to process information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information requested is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to flow (and by the USPTO to address) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

